

after as practicable, hold a conference, or conferences, for the purpose of arranging and defining by mutual agreement the boundaries of their respective Parishes or Cures, and report the same to the Lord Bishop for his consideration; and should his Lordship approve of the same, then the boundaries so arranged, approved and declared, shall be the boundaries of the Parishes or Cures aforesaid; and that the Bishop cause a report of the same to be laid before the Synod at the next ensuing meeting."

"In accordance with the above recommendation, I have issued a notice for the formation of four Rural Deaneries; and arrangements are making for carrying into effect the objects thus contemplated. I cannot but hope that we shall also thus obtain an efficient machinery for raising means for promoting the self-sustentation of the Church in many of the parishes. In the correspondence which I have had with you on this important subject, you have stated, that while your Society is prepared to grant us aid in proportion to the amount raised here, in accordance with the resolutions passed 20th July, 1860, yet this aid is not to be available in the case of local efforts; but that the object in proposing such a scheme was to stimulate a great Diocesan movement, for raising a fund applicable to the most destitute Missions, and so promote the ultimate independence of the Colonial Church. I do not know what may be applicable to other Dioceses, but I am quite sure that this most desirable result will be much more readily and effectually attained by aiding the local efforts for individual parishes. It will be far more prudent to make sure of the ground which we now occupy. The old system has been carried on too long already, and has produced an unhealthy state, and should first be remedied with care and wise treatment; and then I have no fear, but that we shall always be able to raise amongst ourselves a fair annual sum for further missionary work—which, in the present condition of our several parishes, it is impossible to renounce.

"I have very recently received from one of my Clergy a letter, which breathes so hearty and healthy a spirit, and is so full of practical good sense, that I think I cannot do better than insert a copy of it here.

"Knowlton, 26th February, 1861.

"My Lord,

Inclosed I send twenty dollars for *The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel*. I held a Missionary Meeting in Knowlton, the other day, at which were present our new Rural Dean (the Rev. G. Slack), and the Rev Messrs. Scott, Godden, and my brother, who all addressed the meeting, taking different sections of the S. P. G. work. Mr. Slack took Africa; Mr. Scott, New Zealand; Mr. Godden, India; my brother, North America; and then we brought home the conclusion, that with such an enormous missionary work before the Church, how great a duty it was to sustain our own Missions; that after so many years of support from the *Society for the Propagation of the Gospel*, we ought to acknowledge it, by sending them annually a subscription, and to endeavour to relieve them of their present grant to this Mission. I had taken a great deal of trouble to get up the meeting, and although there was a violent snow-storm, we had a large and most interesting gathering, and the collection was more than double any ever before taken up in this Mission. The people felt that they owed a debt of gratitude to the Society.

"In consequence of this meeting, I have got the idea of an endowment well mooted. I shall soon be able to make a move in it. I regard the missionary work of the Church as its great lever power. Make the people see the work in its

greatness, the duty which our Lord has laid upon us to extend the Gospel to every creature, and then the local Missionary parish looks a small business. I do not at present quite see my way to fix any exact plan for the endowment. We have talked over two or three, but all of them have their difficulties. One thing I have insisted upon, that we should fix a time by which to effect our object, I have thought that seven years would be as short a time as, with our means here, it could be possibly brought about; that then this Mission should be entirely self-sustaining. Mr. Foster's suggestion was that we should retain our present allowance (£100) for seven years; that we should still subscribe to the *Diocesan Church Society*, though not perhaps as much as we have done (100 dollars); and that in the meantime we would either by annual subscriptions, or some kind of guarantee securing a block sum at the end of seven years, make up an amount, the interest of which should give 400 dollars per annum. This, with what could be annually raised, would afterwards secure the clergyman's salary. Mr. Foster said he would promise a block sum of 1000 dollars at the end of that time. We have already 1,300 dollars of an endowment fund, 900 of which draws interest; the other 400 was a sale of part of the glebe, which reduces the glebe to fifteen acres, which is enough for any clergyman to occupy. I want to know from you whether we could carry out Mr. Foster's plan. If so I think it would open a way by which many of our Missions might be led to follow in the same course. What encouragement might we hope for in trying to accomplish this?

"I look with great anxiety to the first meeting of our Deanery. We are to talk it over at our clerical meeting at Milton, on the 13th of March. The starting of such a work, the tone and temper with which it begins, are so very important, that if your Lordship could come to our gathering at the first meeting of the Deanery, and explain to the influential body of the laity the greatness of the work, the importance of all labouring together for the general good of the Church, and the particular work of the Rural Dean, I feel that we should get launched under most favourable circumstances, that it would awaken a prayerful feeling among our people. This Deanery movement if only fairly carried out, will do a great deal towards breaking down that congregational feeling which our present isolated work tends to build up. We have through these townships a fine body of laymen; we have resources which need developing; and I trust in the providence of God, that your Lordship may be spared, not only to see your Diocese largely self-supporting, but also assisting to extend the Gospel in the regions beyond.

"I remain, my Lord, yours very faithfully,

"R. LINDSAY."

"Now, surely there can be no better way of spending the funds your Society proposes to devote to endowment, than by encouraging such an effort as this. It will effect far more good than will ever arise from any general fund; and it will in fact, encourage a far larger actual return of subscriptions.

"In July, 1860, I received, through the Governor-General, the information that her Majesty had been pleased, in answer to the petitions sent in from our Diocesan Synods respecting the appointment of a Metropolitan for the Church of England in Canada, to fix on Montreal as the Metropolitan See. Owing to the difficulties of making arrangements so as to suit all the different parties concerned, we have not yet been able to have a meeting of our Provincial Synod; but I believe that I shall now very shortly be able to issue notices for our first meeting in this city. It

will be a most important event in the history of our Canadian Church. I wish it might be possible for the arrangements respecting the new Diocese of Kingston to be all completed, and that the first Bishop could be consecrated at the same time. I pray God that His Spirit may direct and guide us in all our deliberations and acts.

"The visit of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales to this province last summer, has been so fully described, that I shall only allude to it for the purpose of stating, that having attended Divine service in the cathedral in this city, on Sunday, the 26th of August, H. R. H. was graciously pleased afterwards to send me a very handsome folio Bible, on the fly-leaf of which there was the following inscription in his own handwriting:—
"Presented to the Cathedral of Montreal, in memory of 26th August, 1860.

"ALBERT EDWARD,
"Prince of Wales."

"There were also present on that occasion, and assisting in the services, the Bishop of Rupert's Land, and the Bishop of Michigan, United States, who preached the sermons in the afternoon and the evening.

"Our *Diocesan Church Society* held its usual annual meeting in January, 1861, and it was the largest I have ever presided over. The general fund, both that part which was raised in the city and that from the country, was considerably more than had been collected in any former year. And in order to enable us to give increased aid towards the payment of missionaries and provide for any deficiencies caused by the withdrawal of any portion of your Society's grants, it was decided in future to confine our operations to the payment of Missionaries' salaries and endowments, and not to apply any portion of the fund to the building of churches, as had been done previously, leaving this work to be accomplished by the exertions of the people in the different localities, with such assistance as they may be able to get from kind friends elsewhere. This, however, is a most important branch of the work of the Church in this Diocese, which I trust will not be checked through any difficulties which may be caused by the necessity thus imposed upon us.

"Since I last wrote to you I have consecrated five new churches, which had been just completed in the parish of Phillipsburgh, and the Mission of Potton, the Gore of Chatham and Hemmingford, mainly through the anxious labours of the respective incumbents; and on Sunday, the 10th of March, I officiated at the opening of a new free-seat church in this city, in the erection of which the Rev. Edmund Wood has been earnestly engaged for some time; and where, as the future minister, he will, I hope, gather together an attached congregation amongst these classes who have until very lately been practically excluded from the services of our Church. The services at the cathedral continue to be well attended, particularly the free service on Sunday evening.

To be Continued.

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